INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION 302 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE E-306 INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2764



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FILED

APR 3 0 2004

INDIANA UTILITY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

**CAUSE NO. 42557** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF
WABASH VALLEY POWER ASSOCIATION,
INC., FOR AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE
NOTES AS EVIDENCE OF INDEBTEDNESS
UP TO \$86 MILLION PAYABLE AT
PERIODS OF MORE THAN TWELVE
MONTHS FOR THE PURPOSE OF
REFINANCING LONG-TERM DEBT OWED
TO THE RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

You are hereby notified that on this date the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission has caused the following entry to be made:

On April 16, 2004, Wabash Valley Power Association, Inc. ("Petitioner") filed with the Commission its "Verified Notice of Petitioner's Intent to Pay Off the Balance of its Long-Term Debt to Rural Utilities Service Agency, and Request for Approval of the Pay-Off," which appears in the following words and figures, to-wit:

[H.I.]

In its Verified Notice, Petitioner notes that the Commission issued an Order on February 11, 2004 in this Cause, approving Petitioner's refinancing of nearly all of its existing RUS debt. Under the terms of a stipulation and settlement agreement entered into between Petitioner and the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor ("OUCC"), Petitioner agreed that it would not pay off the balance of its RUS debt without first receiving approval from the Commission. Petitioner now informs the Commission that it seeks approval to pay off the balance of the remaining RUS debt. Petitioner proposes to pay off that balance on or about June 30, 2004, and notes that by doing so, Petitioner will become subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") with regard to rates and charges for Petitioner's wholesale sales of electricity. Wherefore, Petitioner requests that the Commission issue a supplemental order in this Cause approving Petitioner's request that it be authorized to pay off the balance of its RUS long-term debt and to submit to exclusive FERC jurisdiction with regard to Petitioner's rates and charges for wholesale sales of electricity.

Upon reviewing Petitioner's Verified Notice, the Presiding Officers now determine that this Cause should be reopened for the purpose of considering Petitioner's request for

authority to pay off the balance of its RUS long-term debt, and related matters. In order to establish an appropriate procedural schedule, a prehearing conference will be convened on Wednesday, May 19, 2004, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Room E306 LL of the Commission's offices.

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

David W. Hadley, Commissioner

Gregory & Colton, Administrative Law Judge

Date

Nancy E. Manley, Secretary to the Commission